

LOWER SAN PITCH RIVER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM
ANNUAL MEETING APRIL 8, 1970, 1:00 P.M.
SANPETE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, MANTI, UTAH

Water Users and Others In Attendance:

NAME
Hubert C. Lambert
Donald C. Norseth
Kenward H. McKinney
Frank Reese
✓ John K. Olsen, Ephraim
✓ Melvin Hansen, Richfield
✓ Reed S. Christiansen, Richfield
✓ Ray F. Olsen, Manti
✓ Roger Johnson, Manti
✓ James G. Olsen, Ephraim
✓ Richard Christensen, Ephraim
✓ Vail H. Nielson, Ephraim
✓ Fred L. Braithwaite, Manti
✓ Dale Peterson, Salina
✓ Grant Dyrang, Manti
✓ Perry Eliason, Manti
✓ Ray P. Cox, Manti
✓ Erwin Roberts, Gunnison
✓ Wayne Nay, Centerfield
✓ Nels I. Olsen, Ephraim
✓ Donald K. Barton, Manti
✓ Bruce Bown, Manti
✓ Stanley Price, Manti
✓ Floyd K. Olsen, Ephraim
✓ Clayton Peterson, Ephraim
✓ Ray Jensen, Ephraim
✓ J. Neil Nielson, Centerfield
✓ Grant W. Cox, Manti

REPRESENTING

State Engineer
Distribution Engineer, Division of Water Rights
Area Engineer, Division of Water Rights
Controller, Division of Water Rights
Ephraim Olsen Ditch
Mayfield Irrigation Company
Mayfield Irrigation Company
Self
Self
Self
Self
Drainage District
No. 6-Mile Irrigation Company
No. 6-Mile Irrigation Company
Manti Irrigation & Reservoir Company
Manti Irrigation & Reservoir Company
Manti Irr. & Res. Co. & Drainage District
Gunnison-Fayette Canal Company
Gunnison Irrigation Co. & Mgr. Centerfield
Self
Manti Irrigation & Reservoir Company
No. 6-Mile Irrigation Company
Price Dam
Self
Ephraim
No. 6-Mile Irrigation Company
Gunnison Irrigation Company
Sanpete Water Conservancy District

Mr. Hubert C. Lambert, Utah State Engineer, opened the meeting at 1:00 P.M. Neither Ben Kjar, Chairman, nor Neil Nielson, Vice-Chairman and Secretary, were present. It was indicated that Mr. Kjar was in Green River and would not be present. Mr. John K. Olsen was nominated and unanimously elected to chair this meeting. Shortly after Mr. Olsen was elected, Mr. Neil Nielson came in, and as Vice-Chairman, assumed the duties of chairman and chaired the meeting.

The minutes of two previous meetings, one held August 7, 1968 and one held on November 20, 1968, were read by Don Norseth. It was moved and seconded that the minutes of these meetings be accepted as read. Motion passed unanimously.

The financial report was made by Frank Reese, Controller, Division of Water Rights. Mr. John K. Olsen queried Mr. Reese regarding the bond premium and the amount of the bond. Mr. Reese explained that it was a Performance Bond and that, for various reasons, the bond premium had been increased and the face value of the bond reduced. At the present time the bond premium is \$10.00 and the face amount of the bond is \$2800+. Mr. Reese indicated that although on December 31, 1969, there was a balance of \$616.55 in the trust fund account, as of this date there was a deficit of \$267.40 in the account.

John McIntosh, the river commissioner, was not present because of an unexpected trip to Oklahoma because of the illness of his father. Kenward H. McKinney read excerpts from the commissioner's report. A summary of measurements taken along the system was read. This summary generated much discussion because of differences in interpretation regarding flows and acre-foot limitations, etc. It appeared that some measurements charged to diversions were actually measurements of the full flow of the river and that in some instances the complete flow of the river was diverted with some returning to the stream and some being used. In other instances the whole stream was diverted for consecutive use by several individuals.

Next was a discussion on the budget and assessment for 1970. It was suggested that the budget and assessment for 1970 be on the basis of acreage served with some adjustment on gross inequities such as the Manti Irrigation and Reservoir Company which was assessed on their total acreage although they used the water received from the system supplementally with other irrigation waters. The Manti Company's representatives indicated that they received 10% to 15% of their total water supply from the Lower San Pitch River Distribution System. There was more discussion on the basis for the assessment. Because of the limitation caused by the lack of measuring devices and the apparent problems in their installation because of the stream regimen, it was decided not to base the assessment on acre-feet consumed in 1969.

Nels I. Olsen made a motion that land which gets water only during the growing season be assessed at a higher rate than land which is subject to flooding. Discussion. James Olsen seconded the motion. Motion by Ray Cox to amend the motion so that budget and assessment could be made as in 1969. Motion to amend died for lack of a second. The chair then asked what differential should be set. After some discussion Nels I. Olsen amended his motion to indicate that 50% should be the differential between the two classes of assessment. The distribution list was then examined and each party indicated whether they were in the 100% or 50% category. Manti Irrigation and Reservoir Company indicated they were in the 100% category and it was agreed that they would be assessed at 15% of the 100% because of the previously mentioned inequity in their assessment for 1969. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by James Olsen and seconded by Stanley Price to have the budget and assessment set at \$3,500.00, the same as for 1969. Motion carried unanimously.

The matter of water commissioner was then discussed. Ray Cox moved and Jim Olsen seconded the motion to retain John McIntosh as water commissioner. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

John K. Olsen moved and Ray F. Olsen seconded the motion, that efforts be made to consolidate the Upper and Lower Sanpitch River Distribution Systems. There was discussion during which it was pointed out by the State Engineer that this could not be done this year but that there would be advantages to such consolidation. Discussion indicated that the main advantages would be decreased unit cost of operation of the combined systems and increased efficiencies. Some parties to the discussion indicated that consolidation might not be desirable because of the different conditions on different parts of the system. A voice vote was called for. Since there was some opposition to the motion, a show of hands was called for. The motion carried 12 for and 3 against. The State Engineer, Mr. Lambert indicated that consolidation would be actively considered.

There was some criticism of the notice given of the Lower Sanpitch River Distribution System Meeting. Don Norseth discussed the matter. James Olsen indicated that if he were supplied with the date and time of the meeting he would see that notices of the meeting were placed in the local papers. Mr. Norseth indicated he would supply Mr. Olsen with the required place, date and time.

John K. Olsen suggested that water rights in the Cox Decree be brought up to date with respect to title. Mr. Lambert indicated that this was a program of the State Engineer. He indicated that title documents would be accepted by his office.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Kenward H. McKinney,
Southeastern Area Engineer
Division of Water Rights

KHM/jmd

cc: Donald C. Norseth
Frank Reese
John K. Olsen
Neil Nielson
John McIntosh
Ben Kjar

Approved
3-31-71